## STATE OF ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

IN THE MATTER OF:	
Scott McGinnis,	) ) File No. 1000312
Truearn.com and its partners, members,	) File No. 1000312
officers, directors, agents, employees,	ý ,
affiliates, successors and assigns.	)
	)

## **ORDER OF PROHIBITION**

TO THE RESPONDENTS:

Scott McGinnis 127 N. Racine Chicago, IL 60607

Truearn.com c/o Scott McGinnis 127 N. Racine Chicago, IL 60607

WHEREAS, a Temporary Order of Prohibition was issued by the Illinois Secretary of State, on October 6, 2011, temporarily prohibiting the Respondents from offering or selling securities in the State of Illinois for a maximum period of ninety (90) days.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11.F of the Illinois Securities Law of 1953 [815 ILCS 5/1 et. seq.] (the "Act"), the failure to request a hearing within thirty (30) calendar days of the entry of a Temporary Order of Prohibition shall constitute an admission of any facts alleged therein and constitute a sufficient basis to make the Temporary Order final.

WHEREAS, Respondents **Scott McGinnis** and **Truearn.com** have failed to request a hearing on the matters contained in the Temporary Order of Prohibition within thirty (30) calendar days of the entry of said Temporary Order and the Respondents are hereby deemed to have admitted the facts alleged in the said Temporary Order.

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State, by and through his duly authorized representative, has adopted the Findings of Fact contained in the said Temporary Order as the Secretary of State's Findings of Fact as follows:

## FRAUD IN THE OFFER AND SALE OF SECURITIES

- 1. Respondent **Scott McGinnis** ("McGinnis") is an individual with a last known address of 127 N. Racine, Chicago, IL 60607.
- 2. McGinnis conducted business under the guise of an entity named **Truearn.com** ("Truearn"), an internet website with a last known address of as 127 N. Racine, Chicago, IL 60607.
- 3. The Truearn website stated:

Truearn is a private online investment firm working with you to help you find the best financial approach to make your desires come true, with robust advice on a wide range of issues, money management and investment management, in the most efficient way to set up your investment and future.

- 4. The Truearn website also represented to potential investors that:
  - Truearn is a private investment fund managed by expert traders and financial analysts, which allows you to access the forex market;
  - Your money will be invested in the forex market;
  - Withdrawals will be processed within 24 hours, and usually takes no more than 1 or 2 hours:
  - Withdrawals are processed 7 days a week.
- 5. According to the Truearn website, Truearn offered a number of investment plans that paid various rates of interest to its investors:
  - Investments into the 116% after 4 days plan will earn a profit of 16% at the end of the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> day, thereby the total return being 116%
  - Investments into the 145% after 10 days plan will earn a profit of 45% at the end of the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> day, thereby the total return being 145%
  - Investments into the 210% after 20 days plan will earn a profit of 110% at the end of the end of the  $20^{th}$  day, thereby the total return being 210%
- 6. In or about May of 2010, Investor A discovered the Truearn website and reviewed the information provided by the website.

- 7. On or about May 24, 2010, Investor A made her initial investment with Truearn. Investor A made two subsequent investments with Truearn on or about May 25, 2010 and June 8, 2010.
- 8. At all times after making her initial investment with Truearn, Investor A's account reflected that she was earning a profit on her investments.
- 9. Beginning in or about July of 2010, Investor A attempted to withdraw funds from her Truearn account.
- 10. When she attempted to withdraw her funds from her Truearn account, the payment processor informed her that the withdrawal could not be processed because Truearn's account with the payment processor had been temporarily suspended.
- 11. After being unable to withdraw money from her Truearn account, Investor A attempted to contact McGinnis via email and telephone. McGinnis never responded to Investor A's email inquiries, and when Investor A attempted to call McGinnis, his telephone number was no longer in service.
- 12. Investor A never received any the principal of her investments back from McGinnis or Truearn and never received any of the interest payments that were promised to her.
- 13. Section 12.F of the Act states that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person to, engage in any transaction, practice or course of business in connection with the sale or purchase of securities which works or tends to work a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser or seller thereof.
- 14. Section 12.G of the Act states that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person to, "obtain money or property through the sale of securities by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.
- 15. Section 12.H of the Act states that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person "to sign or circulate any statement, prospectus, or other paper or document required by any provision of this Act or pertaining to any security knowing or having reasonable grounds to know any material representation therein contained to be false or untrue."
- 16. Section 12.I of the Act states that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person to, "employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud in connection with the sale or purchase of any security, directly or indirectly."

## OFFER AND SALE OF UNREGISTERED SECURITIES

- 17. Section 5 of the Act provides, *inter alia*, that all securities except those exempt under Section 3 or those offered or sold in transactions exempt under Section 4 "shall be registered either by coordination or qualification prior ... to their offer or sale" in the State of Illinois.
- 18. McGinnis and Truearn failed to file with the Secretary of State an application for registration of the securities described above as required by the Act and, as a result, the securities were not registered pursuant to Section 5 of the Act prior to their offer or sale in the State of Illinois.
- 19. Furthermore, McGinnis and Truearn failed to file any notice filings with the Secretary of State claiming that the securities being offered were exempt from registration.
- 20. Section 12.A of the Act provides that it shall be a violation for any person to offer or sell any security except in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
- 21. Section 12.D of the Act provides, *inter alia*, that it shall be a violation for any person to fail to file with the Secretary of State any application, report or document required to be filed under the provisions of the Act or any rule or regulation made by the Secretary of State pursuant to the Act.

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State, by and through his duly authorized representative, has adopted the Conclusions of Law contained in the said Temporary Order as the Secretary of State's Conclusions of Law as follows:

- 1. The activities described above constitute the offer and sale of a security as those terms are defined in Sections 2.1, 2.5, and 2.5a of the Illinois Securities Law of 1953 [815 ILCS 5/1 et. seq.] (the "Act").
- 2. Respondents **Scott McGinnis** and **Truearn.com** violated Sections 12.A, 12.D, 12.F, 12.G, 12.H and 12.I of the Act.
- 3. Respondents **Scott McGinnis** and **Truearn.com** and each of their partners, members, officers and directors, agents, employees, affiliates, successors and assigns are subject to, pursuant to Section 11.F of the Act, an Order which permanently prohibits them from offering or selling securities in the State of Illinois.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT: pursuant to Section 11.F of the Act, Respondents **Scott McGinnis** and **Truearn.com** and each of their partners, members, officers and directors, agents, employees, affiliates, successors and assigns are hereby **PROHIBITED** from offering or selling any securities in or from the State of Illinois.

Dated: This 15th day of November, 2011.

JESSE WHITE Secretary of State State of Illinois

and Water

NOTICE: Failure to comply with the terms of this Order shall be a violation of the Section 12.D of the Act. Any person or entity who fails to comply with the terms of this Order of the Secretary of State, having knowledge of the existence of the Order, shall be guilty of a Class 4 Felony.

This is a final order subject to administrative review pursuant to the Administrative Review Law, {735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.} and the Rules and Regulations of the Illinois Securities Act, {14 Ill. Admin. Code Ch. I, Section 130.1123}. Any action for Judicial Review must be commenced within thirty-five (35) days from the date a copy of this Order is served upon the party seeking review.

Attorney for the Secretary of State:

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